

1. A telecommunications system, comprising:

a service control point (SCP) configured to receive a first message and process the first message to generate a second message containing first call handling information for a call, receive a third message and process the third message to generate a fourth message with second
5 call handling information for the call, wherein the third message includes a first speed dial number; and

a switching system linked to the SCP and configured to transmit the first message and the third message for the SCP and receive the second message and the fourth message from the SCP.

10 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the switching system is configured to extend the call from a caller to a first called party based on the first call handling information and extend the call from the first called party to a second called party based on the second call handling information.

15 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the switching system is configured to confirm the call is extended from the first called party to the second called party.

4. The system of claim 2, wherein the switching system is configured to place the caller on hold while the call is extended from the first called party to the second called party.

20 5. The system of claim 4, wherein the switching system is configured to extend the call from the first called party to the second called party with the option to set up a three-way conference call between the caller, the first called party and the second called party.

25 6. The system of claim 2, wherein the SCP is configured to process the third message to translate the first speed dial number into the second called party's telephone number.

30 7. The system of claim 2, wherein the SCP is further configured to receive a fifth message, which includes a second speed dial number, and to process the fifth message to generate a sixth message containing third call handling information, and transmit the sixth message for the switching system.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the switching system is configured to use the third call handling information to set up a conference call between the caller, the first called party and the second called party.

5 9. The system of claim 1, wherein the SCP is configured to process the third message including the first speed dial number to generate a query message containing instructions for the switching system to collect digits, transmit the query message for the switching system and process a response message from the switching system containing the collected digits to generate the fourth message.

10 10. The system of claim 1, wherein the SCP is further configured to include instructions indicating call redirection capabilities for a called party in the first call handling information.

15 11. The system of claim 1, wherein the SCP is further configured to perform call screening based on a call type.

20 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the SCP is configured to perform call screening based on the call type and a time of day.

25 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the SCP is configured to perform call screening based on the call type and a destination number.

30 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the SCP is configured to perform call screening based on the call type, the time of day and the destination number.

35 15. A telecommunications service control point (SCP) comprising:

a processing system configured to process a first message that includes a speed dial number to generate a second message with call handling information for a call; and

an interface configured to receive the first message with the speed dial number and transmit the second message with the call handling information.

16. The SCP of claim 15, further comprising:

a translation data structure, wherein the processing system is configured to enter the translation data structure with the speed dial number and translate the speed dial number into a telephone number.

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17. The SCP of claim 15, further comprising:

a digit collection data structure, wherein the processing system is configured to enter the translation data structure and translate the speed dial number to obtain a pointer to the digit collection data structure and enter the digit collection data structure to generate a query message containing instructions to collect digits.

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18. The SCP of claim 17, further comprising:

a call processing data structure, wherein the processing system is configured to enter the translation data structure with the speed dial number and translate the speed dial number to obtain a pointer to the call processing data structure.

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19. The SCP of claim 18, wherein the speed dial number comprises:

five or less touch tone characters.

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20. The SCP of claim 19, wherein at least one of the touch tone characters is an asterisk character.

21. The SCP of claim 20, wherein at least one of the touch tone characters is the asterisk character and at least one of the touch tone characters is an octothorpe character.

22. A method of handling a call in a telecommunications system, the method comprising:
 receiving a first message in an SCP;
 processing the first message to generate a second message containing first call handling
 information for the call;
 5 transmitting the second message with the first call handling information for a switching
 system;
 receiving a third message, which includes a first speed dial number;
 processing the third message to generate a fourth message with second call handling
 information for the call; and
 10 transmitting the fourth message for the switching system.

23. The method of claim 22, the method further comprising:
 extending the call from a caller to a first called party; and
 extending the call from the first called party to a second called party.

24. The method of claim 23, the method further comprising:
 confirming the call is extended from the first called party to the second called party.

25. The method of claim 23, the method further comprising:
 20 placing the caller on hold while the call is extended from the first called party to the
 second called party.

26. The method of claim 23, the method further comprising:
 extending the call from the first called party to the second called party with the option to
 25 set up a three-way conference call

27. The method of claim 23, the method further comprising:
 connecting the call between the caller, the first called party and the second called party,
 wherein the caller, the first called party and the second called party are conferenced.

28. The method of claim 23, the method further comprising:

translating the first speed dial number in the third message into a telephone number.

29. The method of claim 22, the method further comprising:

5 processing the third message including the first speed dial number to generate a query message containing instructions to collect digits;

transmitting the query message for the switching system; and

processing a response message from the switching system containing the collected digits to generate the fourth message.

10 30. The method of claim 22, the method further comprising

receiving a fifth message from the switching system, wherein the fifth message includes a second speed dial number;

15 processing the fifth message to generate a sixth message containing third call handling information; and

transmitting the sixth message for the switching system.

31. The method of claim 22, the method further comprising:

indicating call redirection capabilities for a called party.

20 32. The method of claim 31, the method further comprising:

performing call screening for a call based on a call type.

33. The method of claim 32 the method further comprising:

25 performing call screening for a call based on the call type and a time of day.

34. The method of claim 33, the method further comprising:

performing call screening for a call based on the call type and a destination number.

35. The method of claim 34, the method further comprising:

performing call screening for a call based on the call type, the time of day and the destination number.

5 36. A method of handling a call in an SCP, the method comprising:

processing a first message that includes a speed dial number;

generating a second message with call handling information for the call; and

transmitting the second message with the call handling information.

10 37. The method of claim 36, the method further comprising:

entering a translation data structure with the speed dial number; and

translating the speed dial number into a telephone number.

38. The method of claim 37, the method further comprising:

translating the speed dial number to obtain a first pointer to a digit collection data structure; and

entering the digit collection data structure to generate a query message containing instructions to collect digits.

20 39. The method of claim 37, the method further comprising:

translating the speed dial number to obtain a second pointer to a call processing data structure.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the speed dial number comprises:

25 five or less touch tone characters.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein at least one of the five or less touch tone characters is an asterisk character.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein at least one of the five or less touch tone characters is an asterisk character and at least one of the five or less touch tone characters is an octothorpe character.

5 43. A software product for use in operating a service control point (SCP), the product comprising:

processing system instructions operational when executed by a processor to direct an SCP processing system to process a first message that includes a first speed dial number to generate a second message with call handling information for a call;

10 interface instructions operational when executed by the processor to direct an SCP interface to receive the first message with the speed dial number and transmit the second message with the call handling information; and

a storage medium operational to store the processing system instructions and the interface instructions.

44. The product of claim 43, wherein the processing system instructions are further operational to process a third message containing a second speed dial number to generate a fourth message containing second call handling information; and

20 the interface instructions are further operational to receive the third message and transmit the fourth message.

45. The product of claim 43, wherein the processing system instructions are operational when executed by the processor to direct the processing system to process the first message to translate the first speed dial number into a telephone number.

25 46. The product of claim 45, wherein the processing system instructions are operational to enter a translation data structure with the speed dial number and translate the speed dial number into the telephone number.

47. The product of claim 46, wherein the processing system instructions are operational when executed by the processor to direct the processing system to process the first message including the speed dial number to generate a query message containing instructions to collect digits and process a response message containing the collected digits to generate the second message; and

5 the interface instructions are operational to transmit the query message and receive the response message.

48. The product of claim 47, wherein the processing system instructions are further operational to enter the translation data structure with the speed dial number and translate the speed dial
10 number to obtain a pointer to a digit collection data structure and enter the digit collection data structure to generate the query message containing the instructions to collect digits.

49. The product of claim 46, wherein the processing instructions are further operational to enter the translation data structure with the speed dial number and translate the speed dial number to
15 obtain a pointer to a call processing data structure.